AMERICAN MYTHOLOGY PRODUCTIONS
FUNNY BOOKS
#1 DIGITAL
MAIN COVER
UNDERDOG
AND PALS
GALVAN

THERE'S NO NEED TO FEAR!

UNDERDOG™ AND PALS ARE HERE!

UNDERDOG IN "KING SINISTER" PART 1

Written by Pat Shand
Illustrated by Matt Hansel
Letters by Natalie Jane

COMMANDER MCBRAGG IN "EASTER ISLAND"

Written by Todd Clark
Illustrated by Matt Hansel
Letters by Natalie Jane

TOOTER TURTLE IN "COMIC CREATOR"

Written by Mike Wolfer
Illustrated by Jeff Scherer
Color by Jeremy Kahn
Letters by Natalie Jane

UNDERDOG IN "NEW JOB FOR OLD"

Originally presented in
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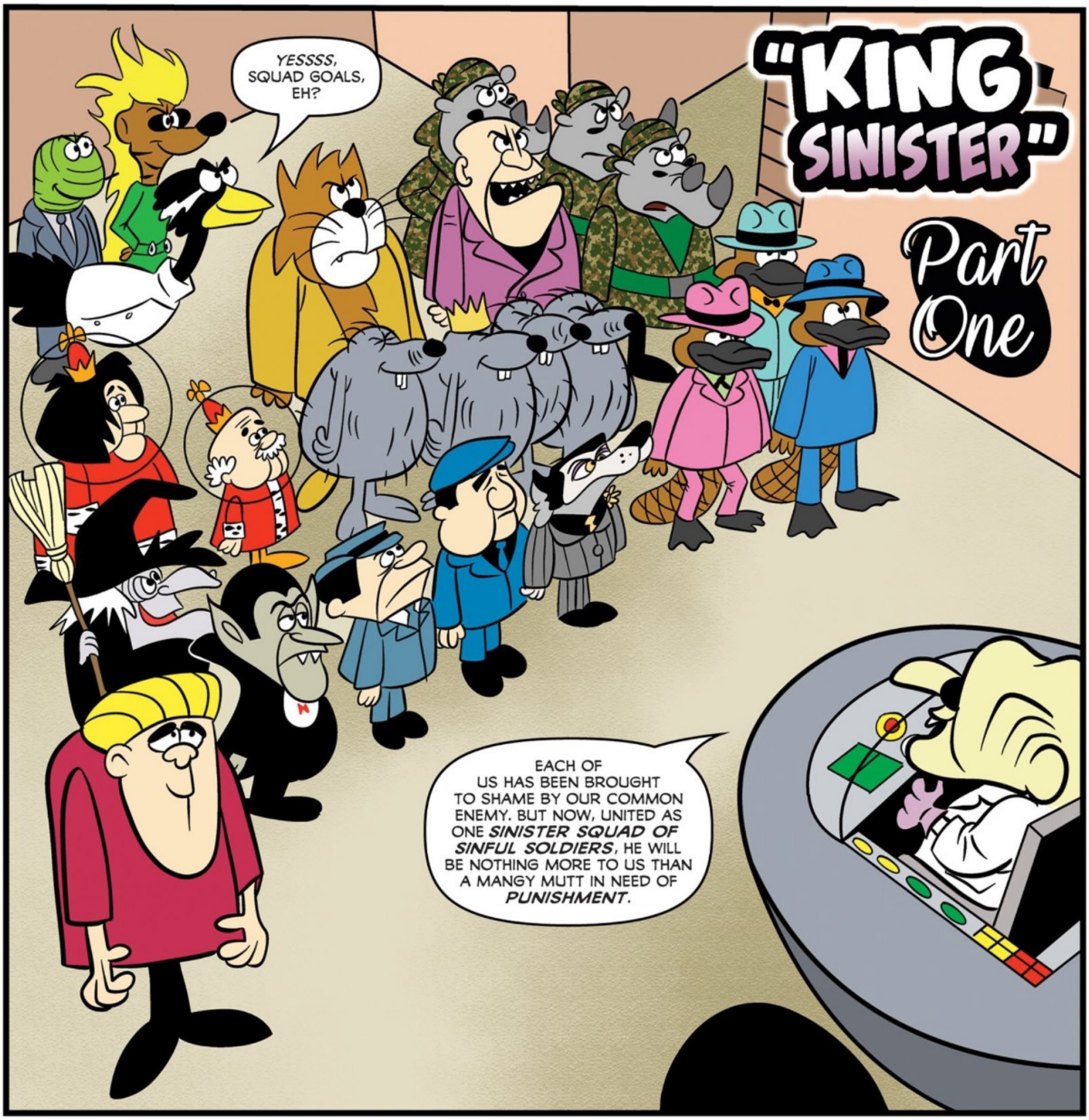
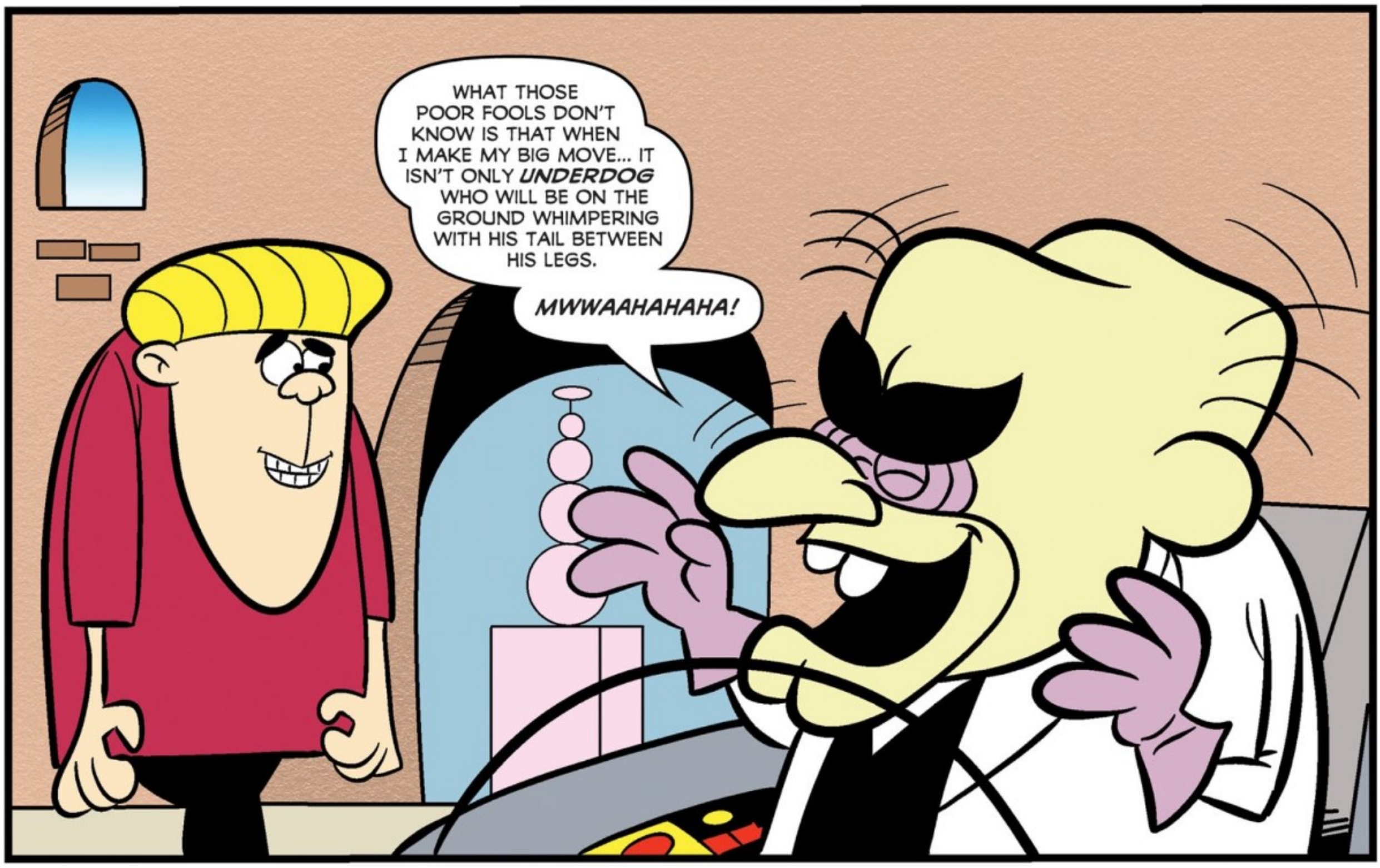
IMAGINE LIVING IN A CITY PROTECTED BY A *HERO*... A GREAT AND POWERFUL WARRIOR, A FRIEND TO ALL, WHO WILL STOP AT NOTHING TO DEFEND *ANY* AND *EVERY PERSON* FROM WHATEVER EVIL MAY COME.
NO ICE CREAM PERMITTED INSIDE.
YOU WOULD THINK THIS CITY WOULD BE THE SAFEST PLACE IN THE WORLD, BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT WHEREVER A TRUE HERO WALKS...

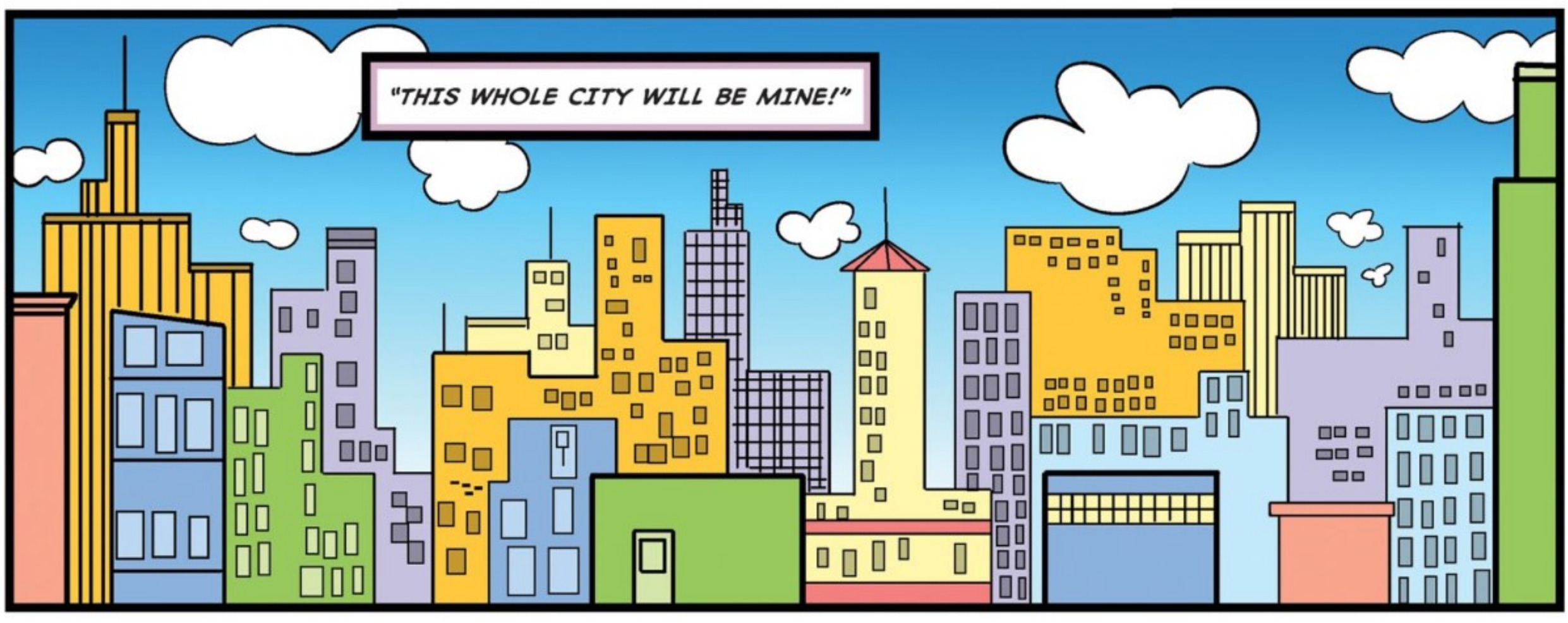
...THERE WILL BE VILLAINS IN THE SHADOWS, WAITING TO STRIKE.
TODAY IS THE DAY THAT THE MIGHTY *UNDERDOG* FALLS!


"KING SINISTER"
Part One
YESSSS, SQUAD GOALS, EH?
EACH OF US HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO SHAME BY OUR COMMON ENEMY. BUT NOW, UNITED AS ONE *SINISTER SQUAD OF SINFUL SOLDIERS*, HE WILL BE NOTHING MORE TO US THAN A MANGY MUTT IN NEED OF *PUNISHMENT*.

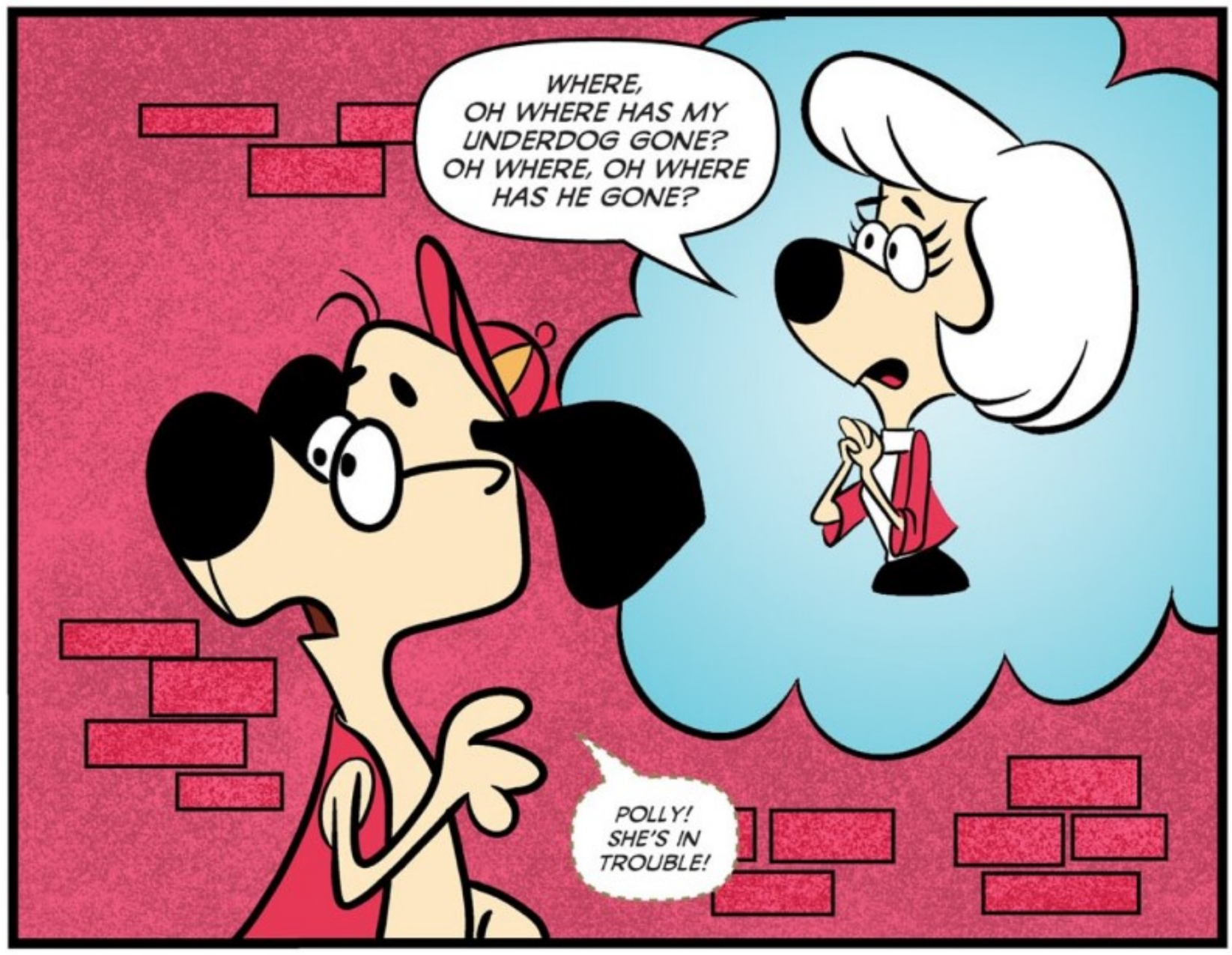
YOU ALL KNOW THE PLAN! GO, GO, GO! TODAY IS OUR DAY!
HAAAA HAHAHAHA!

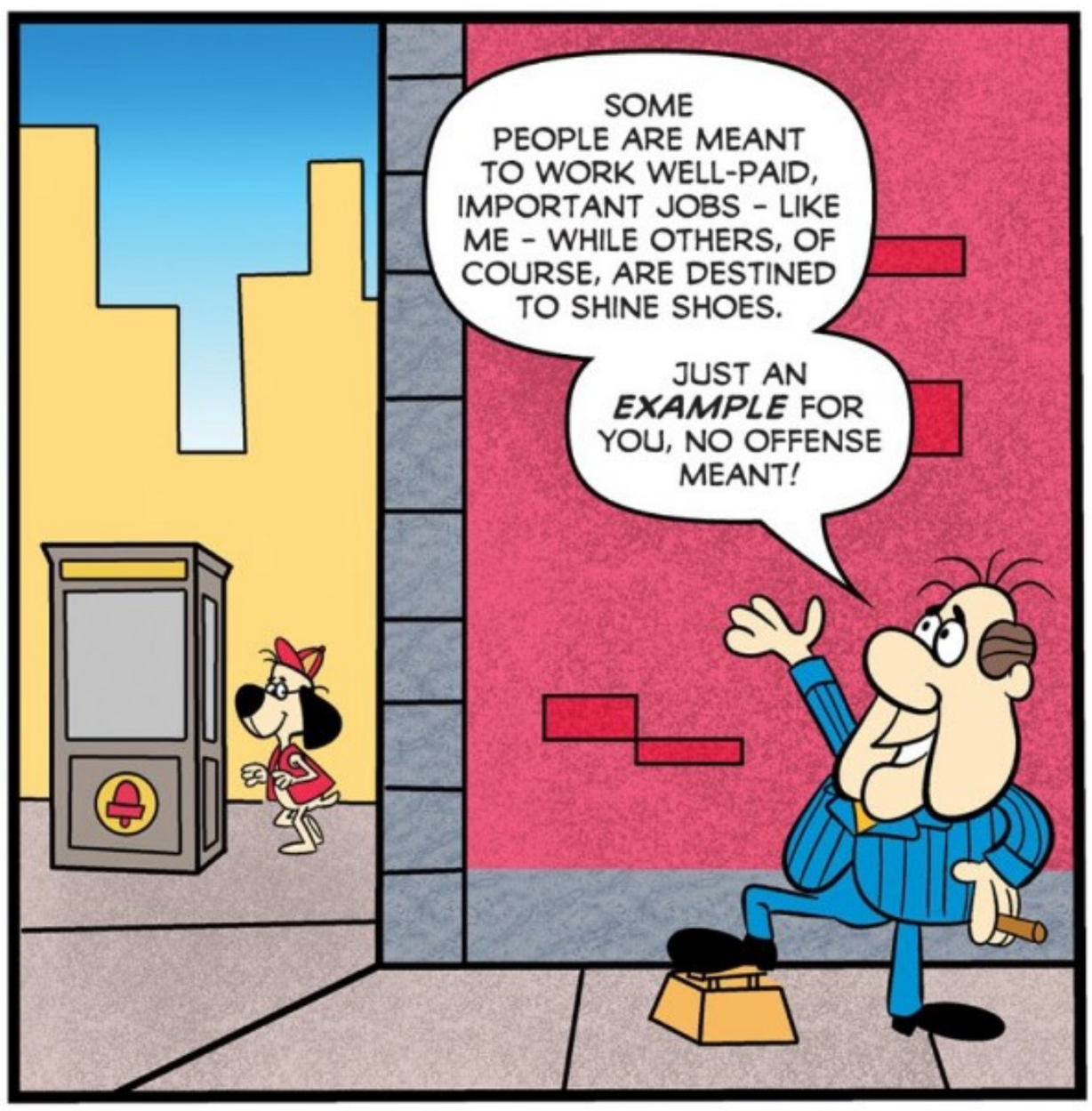
ONCE BATTY MAN PLAYS HIS ROLE, CAD... YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO, YES?
YES, BOSS. WAIT FOR YOUR SIGNAL AND THEN -
SHHH! DON'T SAY IT OUT LOUD. I DON'T WANT TO JINX IT.


WHAT THOSE POOR FOOLS DON'T KNOW IS THAT WHEN I MAKE MY BIG MOVE... IT ISN'T ONLY UNDERDOG WHO WILL BE ON THE GROUND WHIMPERING WITH HIS TAIL BETWEEN HIS LEGS.
MWWAAHAHAHA!

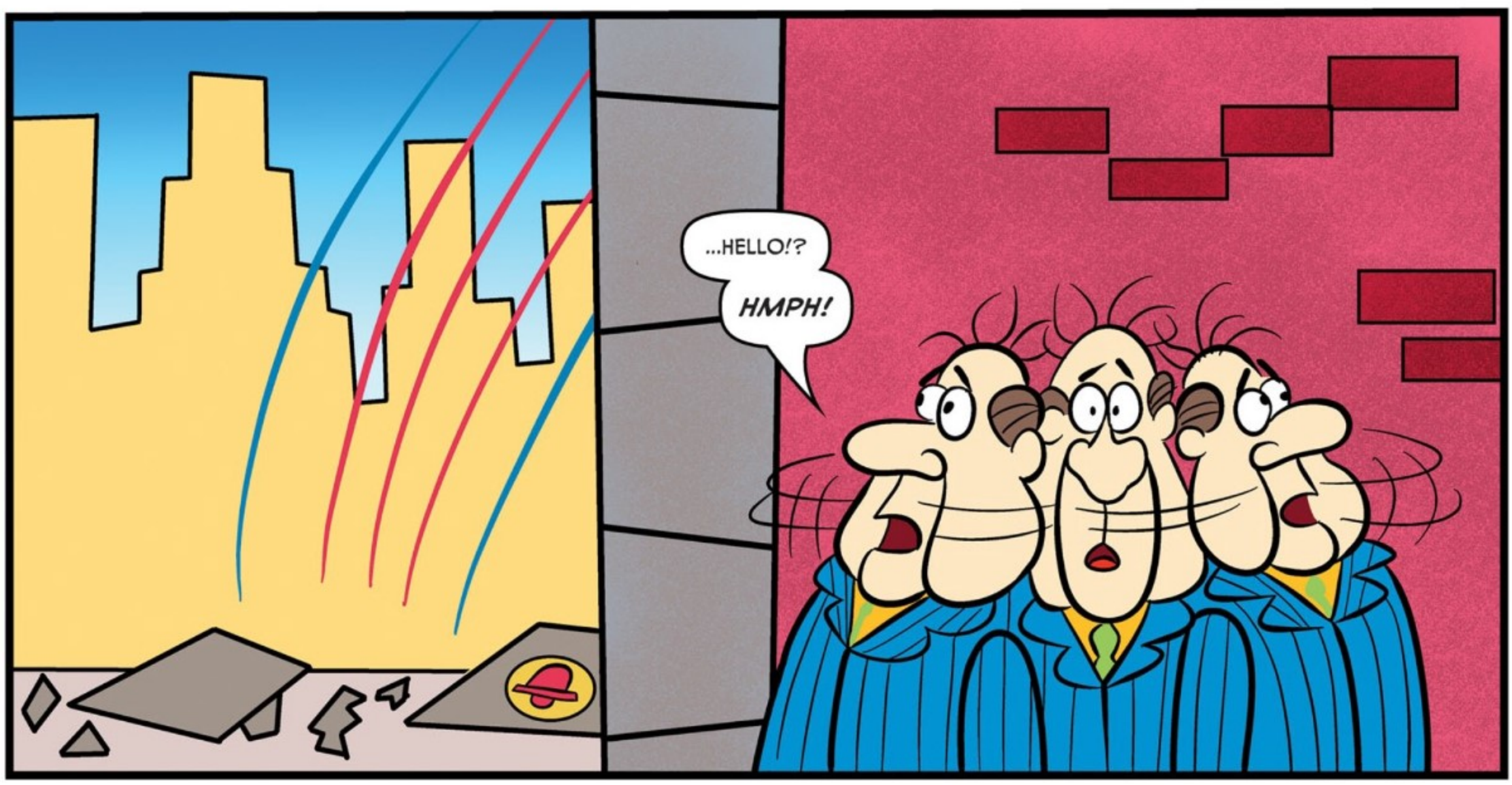

"THIS WHOLE CITY WILL BE MINE!"

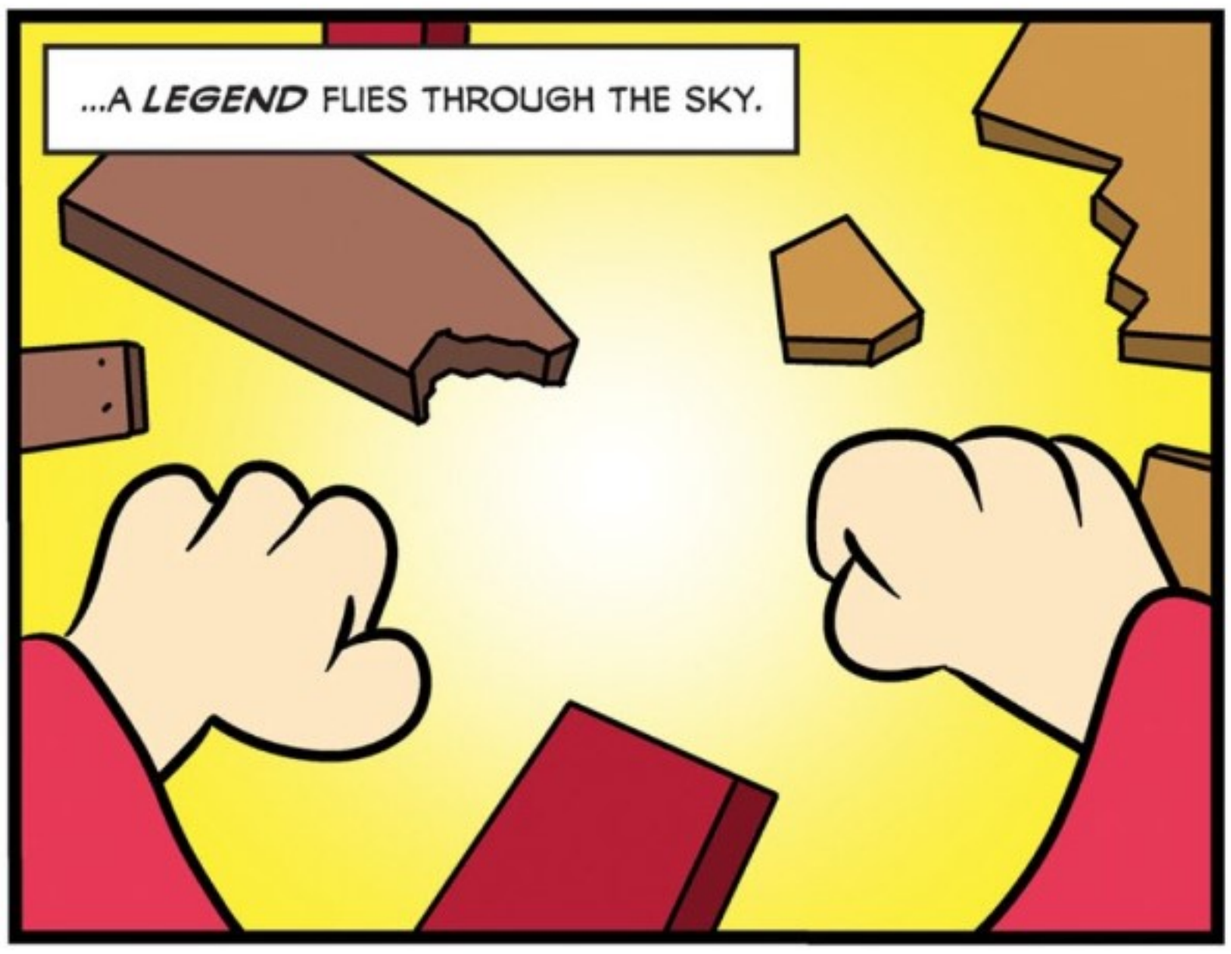
WELL, I'LL BE!
I CAN SEE MY REFLECTION IN THESE SHOES. BEAUTIFUL JOB, SHOESHINE BOY. SO MANY KIDS THESE DAYS DON'T UNDERSTAND THE VALUE OF A HARD DAY'S WORK!
THANK YOU, SIR.
I CAN TELL THAT YOU TAKE PRIDE IN WHAT YOU DO, BOY.


WHERE, OH WHERE HAS MY UNDERDOG GONE? OH WHERE, OH WHERE HAS HE GONE?
POLLY! SHE'S IN TROUBLE!


SOME PEOPLE ARE MEANT TO WORK WELL-PAID, IMPORTANT JOBS - LIKE ME - WHILE OTHERS, OF COURSE, ARE DESTINED TO SHINE SHOES.
JUST AN EXAMPLE FOR YOU, NO OFFENSE MEANT!

I CAN TELL THAT YOUR TRUE PASSION IS GIVING A GOOD OL' SHOESHINE. A BOY LIKE YOU DOESN'T ALLOW YOURSELF TO GET DISTRACTED BY -


...HELLO!?
HMPH!



WHENEVER THERE IS HELP NEEDED IN THIS CITY...

WHENEVER SOMEONE CRIES OUT IN DISTRESS...

AND WHENEVER SOMEONE ***MESSES*** WITH ***SWEET POLLY PUREBRED***...

HE IS READY TO FIGHT FOR WHAT IS RIGHT.

THERE'S NO NEED TO FEAR! UNDERDOG™ IS HERE!

AH, UNDERDOG... IT HAS BEEN QUITE SOME TIME.
I MISSED YOU SO. DO YOU REMEMBER OUR DUEL ON THE ROOF? GOOD TIMES.
UNDERDOG!

AH, WHEN YOU FIRED A CANNON BALL INTO MY FACE... I CAN'T SAY YOU'RE SOMEONE I MISS.
BUT IF YOU THOUGHT THOSE WERE GOOD TIMES, YOU'RE GOING TO LOVE THIS!

AH-TA-TA!
THAT IS NOT HOW THIS FIGHT WILL GO, UNDERDOG. I TIRE OF ONE-ON-ONE COMBAT. I'D PREFER TO SEE... A SHOW.

YOU SPEAK NONSENSE, AND I HAVE NO TIME FOR FOLLY.
WHAT IS YOUR PLAN, BATTY-MAN? FIGHT ME NOW OR RELEASE POLLY!

UNDERDOG, WATCH OUT!

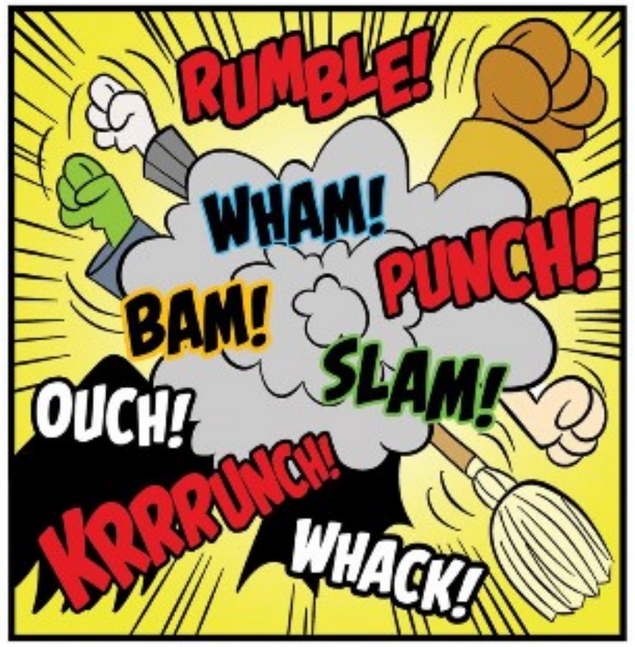
HUH?

OH...
NO.

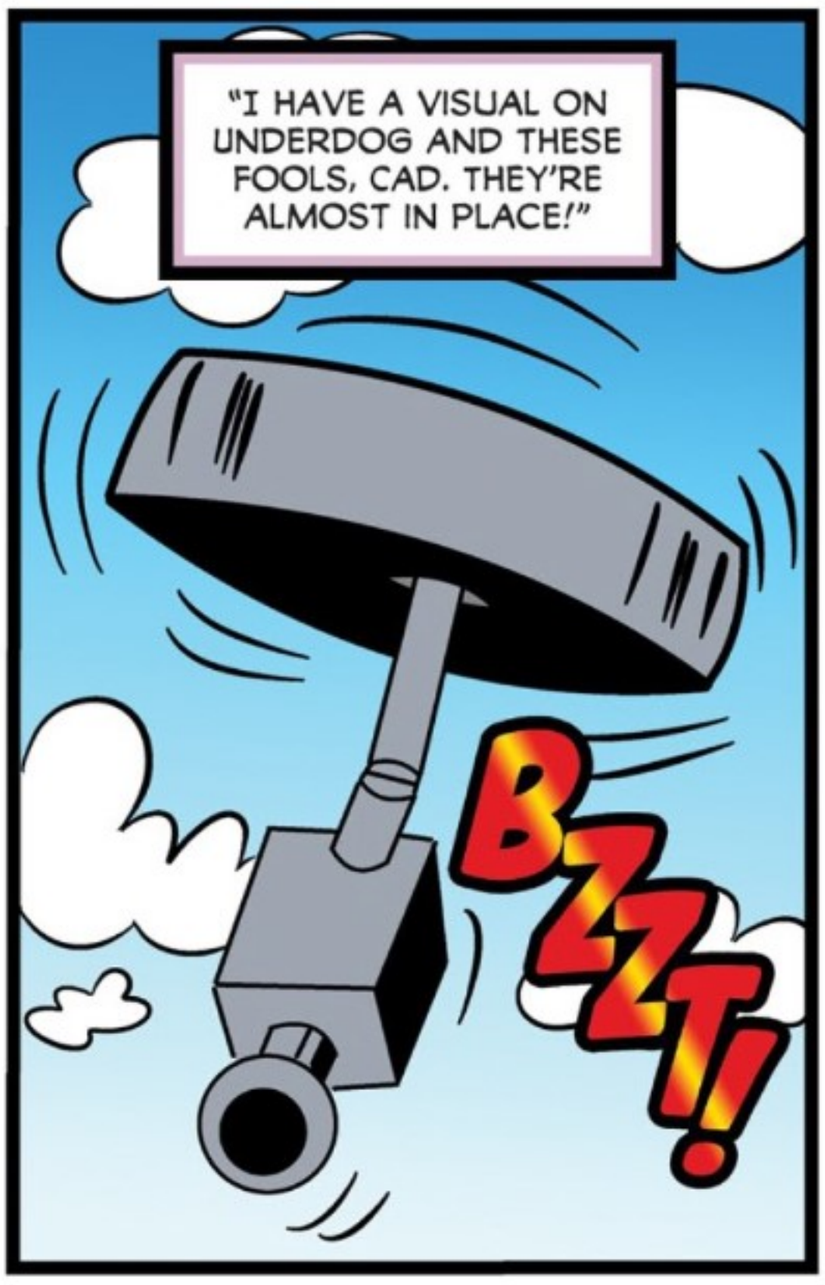
HISSSSSSS, EH!?
I'LL HOLD 'EM DOWN!
LIGHT 'EM UP!

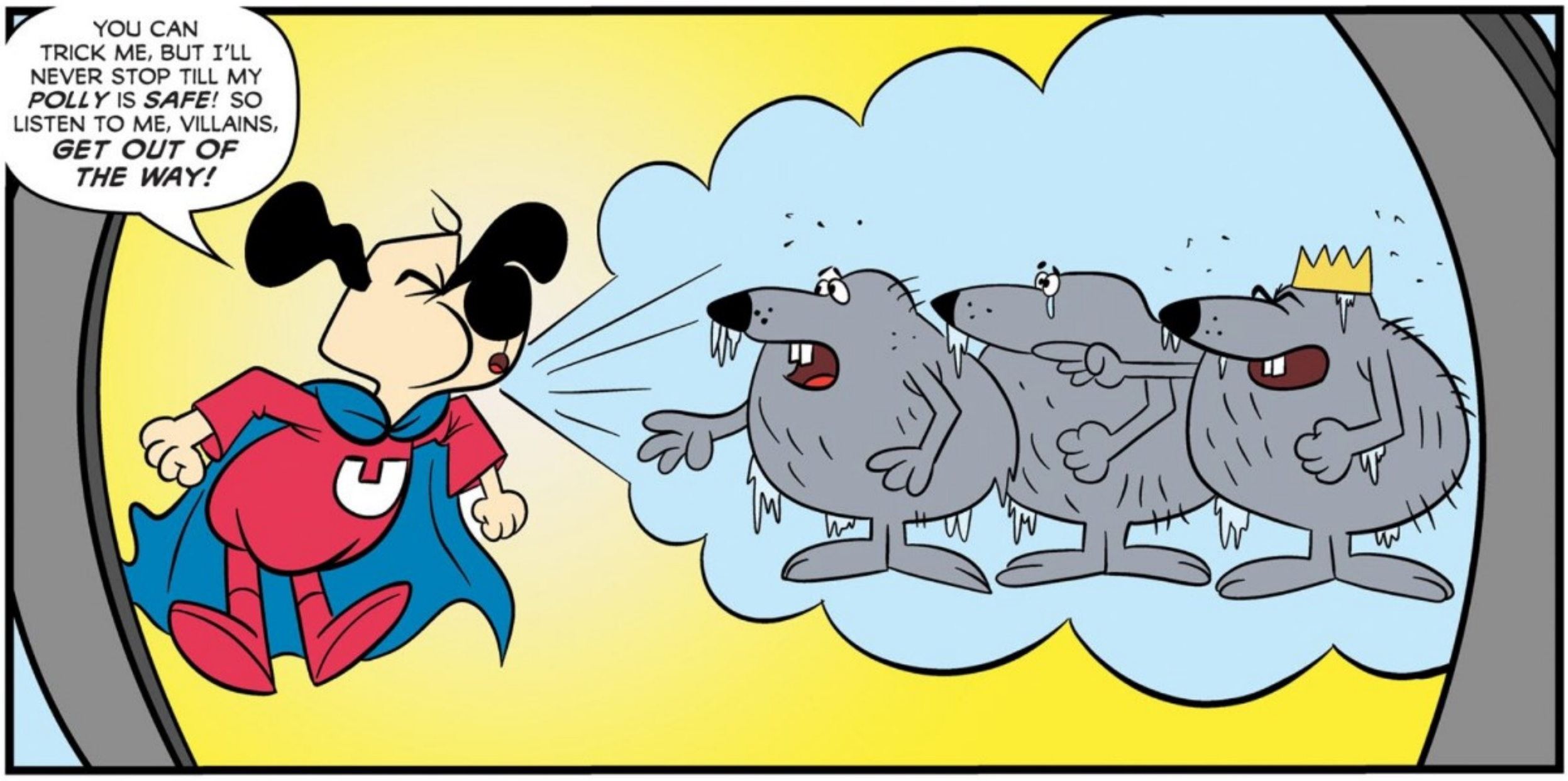
WHO WOULD'VE PICTURED THIS? A CAT AND A DOG WORKING TOGETHER AS PALS?
DON'T PUSH YOUR LUCK, RIFF RAFF.

NOOO! UNDERDOG!

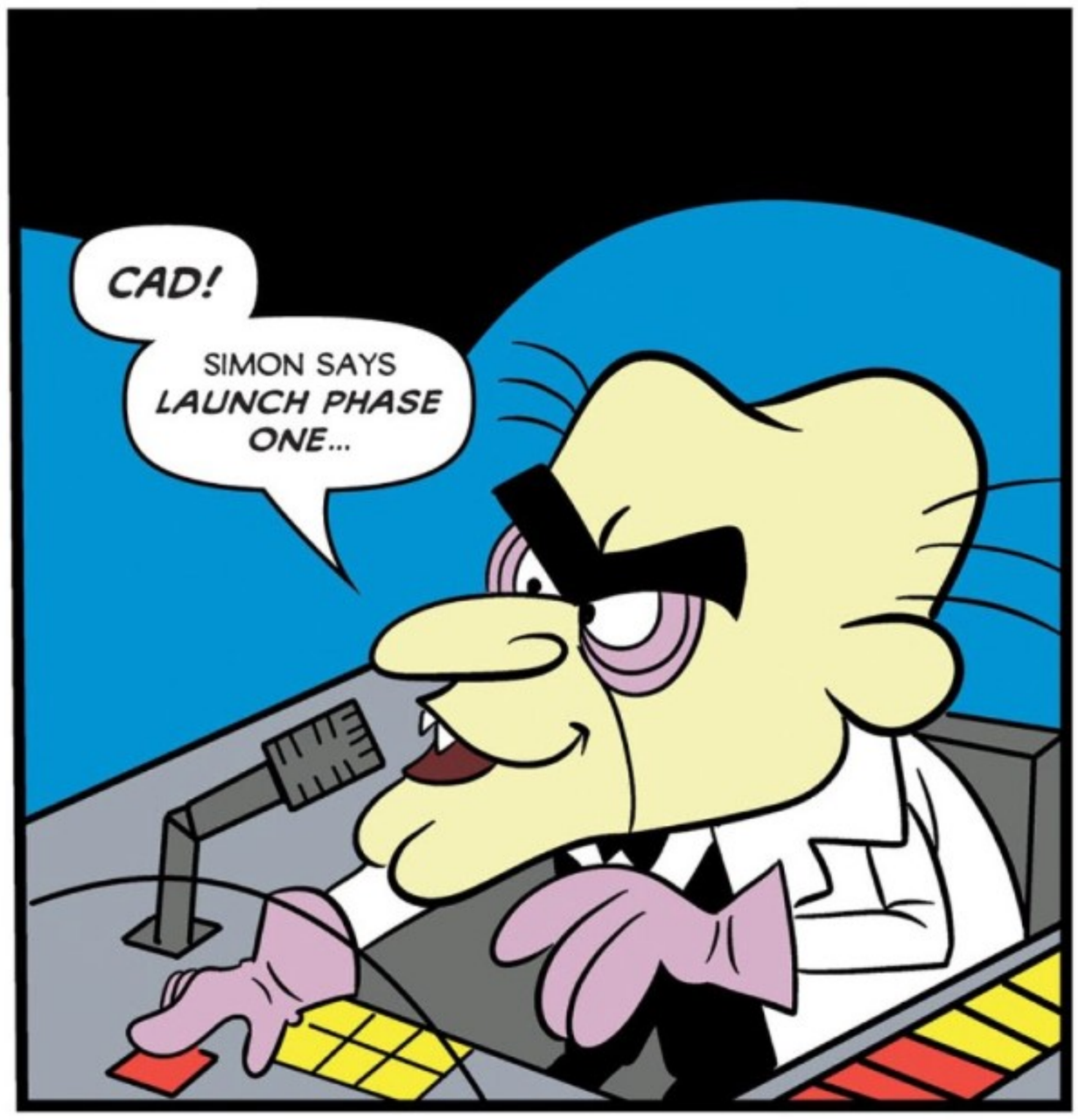

RUMBLE!
WHAM!
PUNCH!
BAM!
SLAM!
OUCH!
KRRRUNCH!
WHACK!

THIS WAS A TRAP ALL ALONG... NOW I SEE... BUT I *STILL* MUST FIND A WAY TO FREE *POLLY*!


"I HAVE A VISUAL ON UNDERDOG AND THESE FOOLS, CAD. THEY'RE ALMOST IN PLACE!"
BZZT!

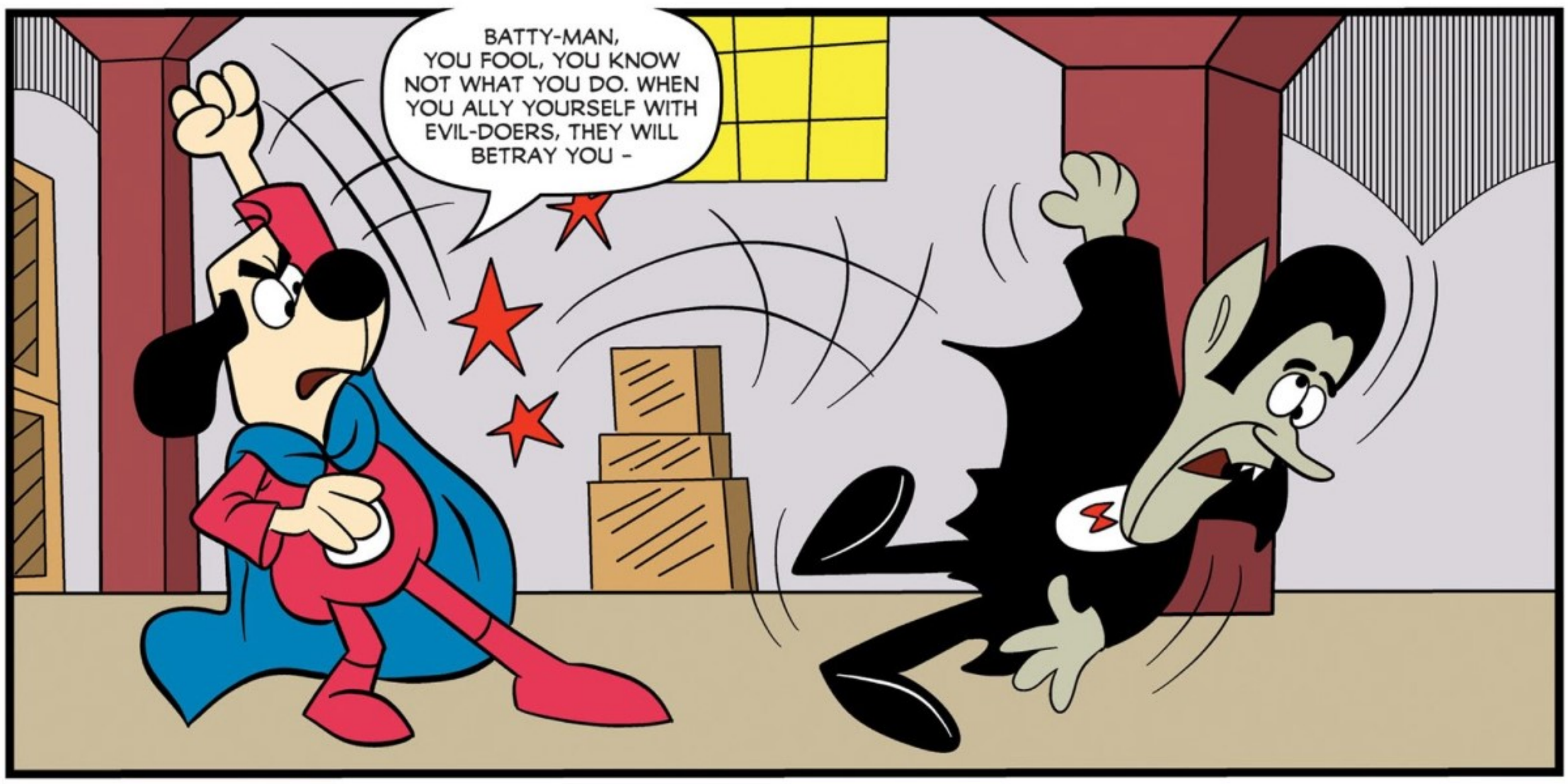

YOU CAN TRICK ME, BUT I'LL NEVER STOP TILL MY *POLLY* IS *SAFE*! SO LISTEN TO ME, VILLAINS, *GET OUT OF THE WAY!*

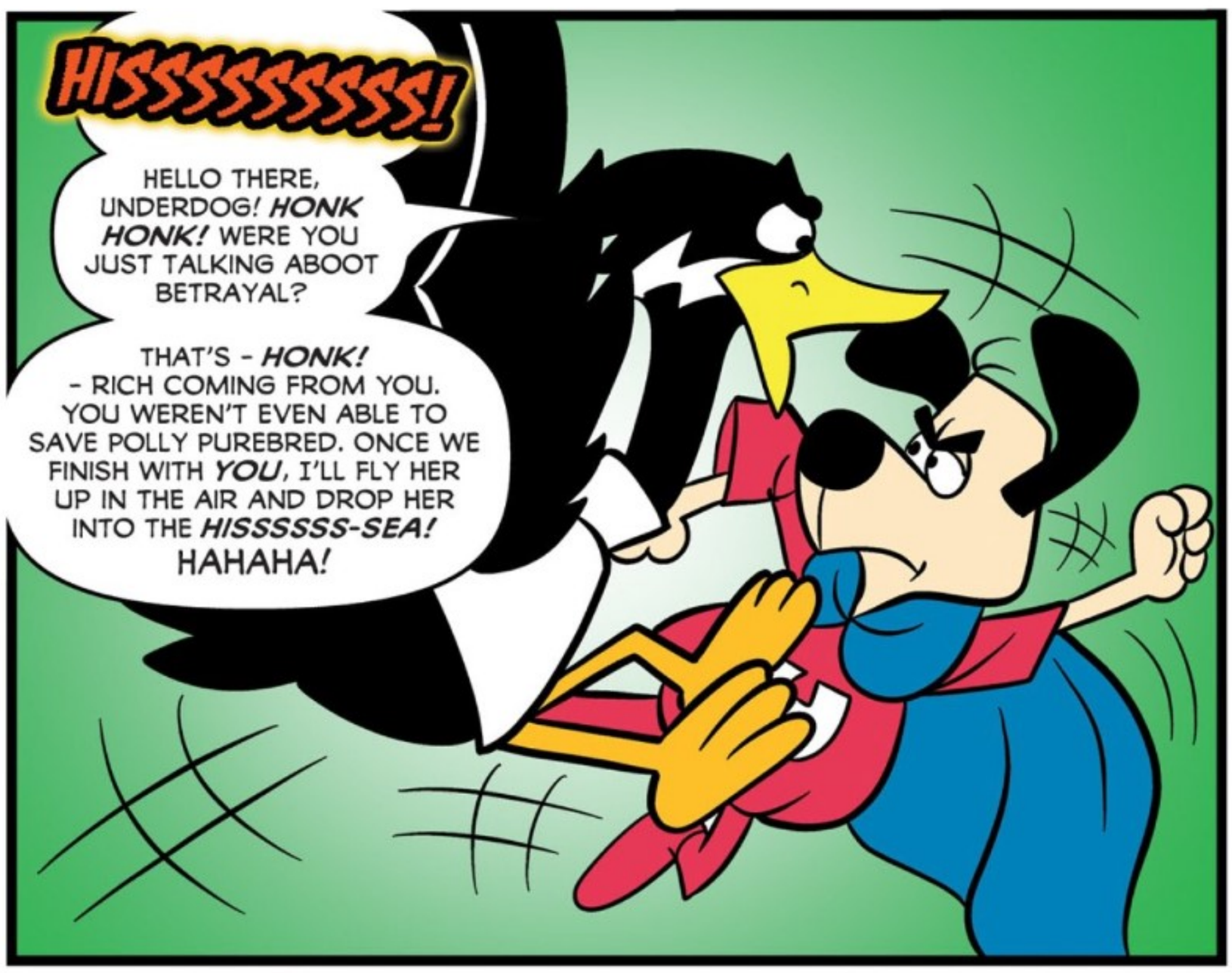
MWAHAHAHAHAHA!
GIVE HIM A *SHOCK* FOR THE TIME HE BLEW UP MY LAIR! A *PUNCH* FOR THE TIME HE SENT ME TO JAIL!
AND A *KICK* FOR THOSE AWFUL RHYMES! WHAT IS THIS, A POETRY SLAM?

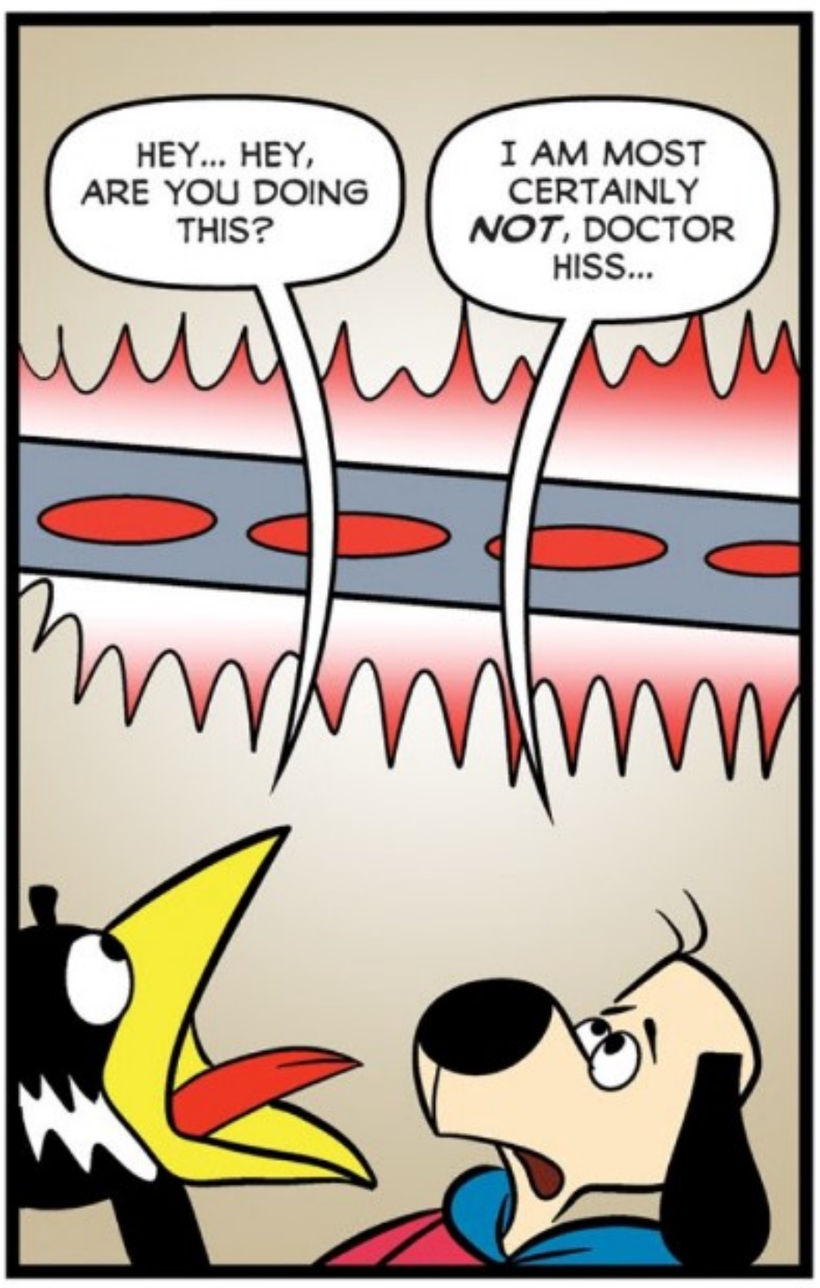

CAD!
SIMON SAYS *LAUNCH PHASE ONE...*

YOU GOT IT, BOSS.

PHASE ONE LAUNCHED!
BEEEEEEP!


BATTY-MAN, YOU FOOL, YOU KNOW NOT WHAT YOU DO. WHEN YOU ALLY YOURSELF WITH EVIL-DOERS, THEY WILL BETRAY YOU -


HISSSSSSSSS!
HELLO THERE, UNDERDOG! HONK HONK! WERE YOU JUST TALKING ABOOT BETRAYAL?
THAT'S - HONK! - RICH COMING FROM YOU. YOU WEREN'T EVEN ABLE TO SAVE POLLY PUREBRED. ONCE WE FINISH WITH YOU, I'LL FLY HER UP IN THE AIR AND DROP HER INTO THE HISSSSSS-SEA! HAHAHA!


HEY... HEY, ARE YOU DOING THIS?
I AM MOST CERTAINLY NOT, DOCTOR HISS...

WOOOOSH!

WHAT THE HISSSSSSS IS GOING ON?

HEY! WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

IT APPEARS A *FORCEFIELD* HAS SHOT OUT OF THE FLOOR. I TAKE IT THIS PART OF THE PLAN *WASN'T* YOURS?

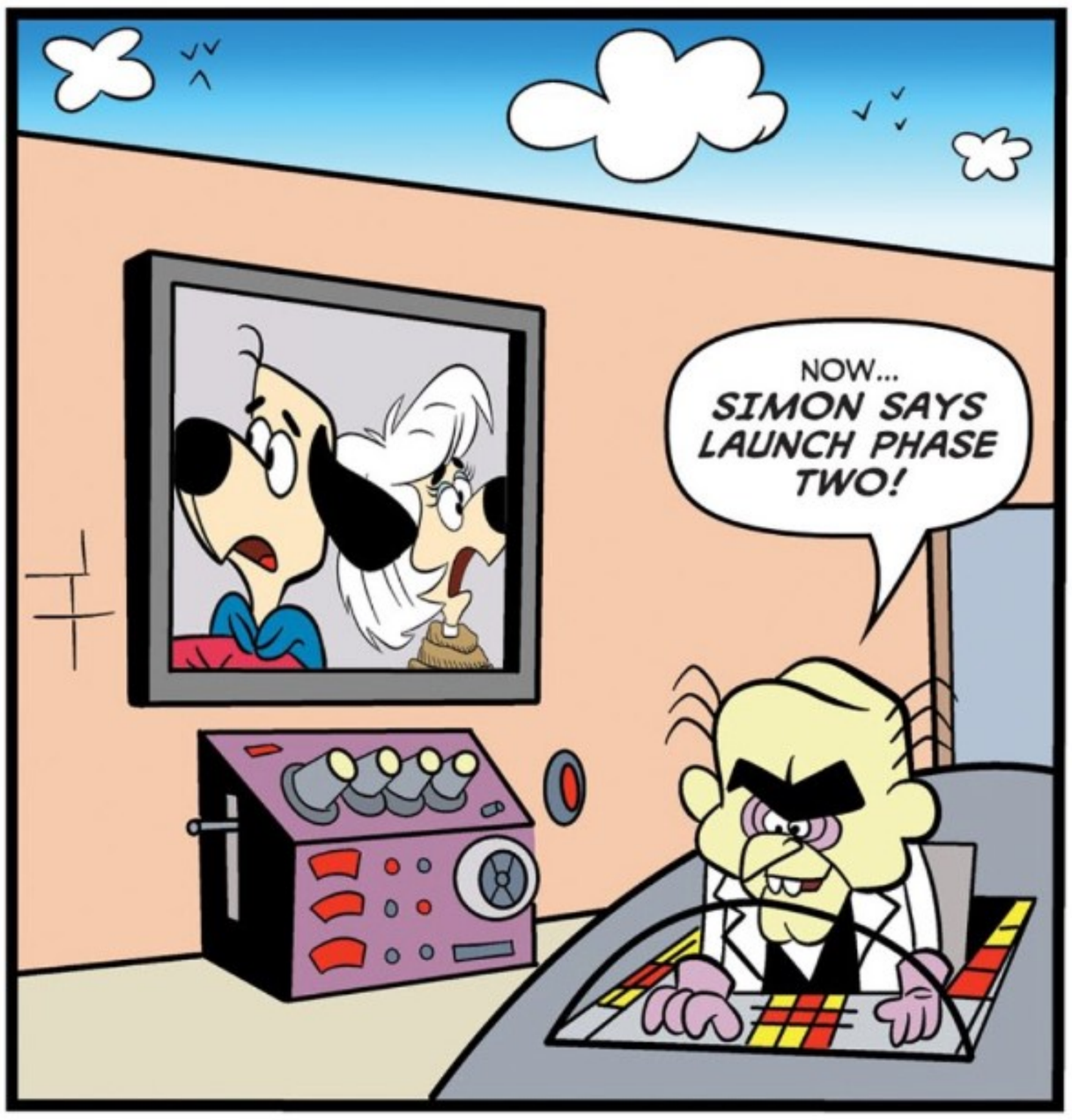
FORCEFIELD? THIS IS *SIMON BAR SINISTER'S* OLD LAB, BACK BEFORE HE MOVED INTO THE *BIG* PLACE.

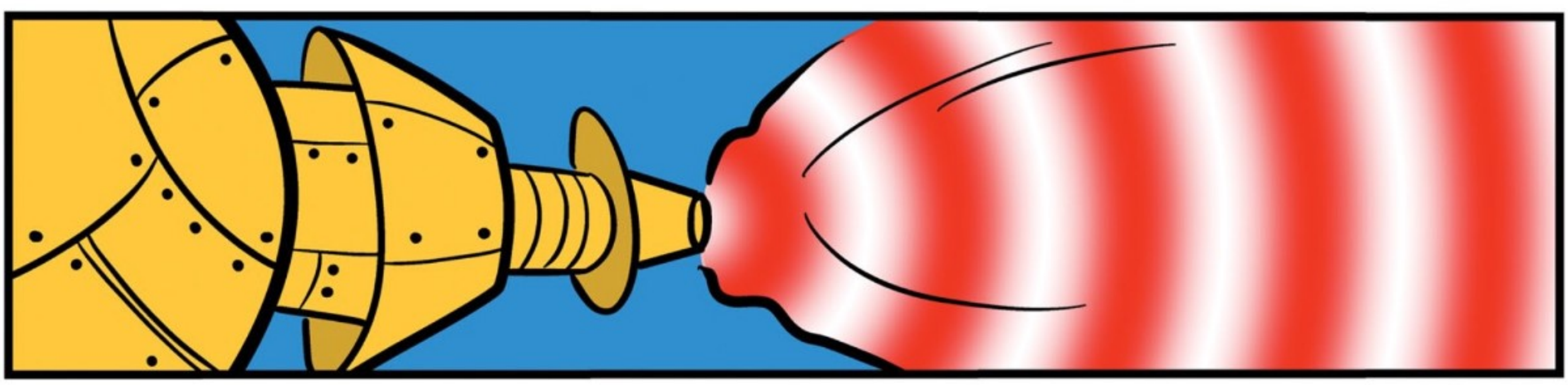
I BET IT'S JUST SOME KIND OF *PROJECTION*, YOU DUMB DOG –

ZZZAAP!

HONK!

GRRRRRR UNDERDOG IS RIGHT. IT'S A FORCEFIELD! DID THAT *CAD LACKEY* IDIOT TRAP *US* IN HERE BY MISTAKE OR SOMETHIN'!?


NOW...
SIMON SAYS LAUNCH PHASE TWO!

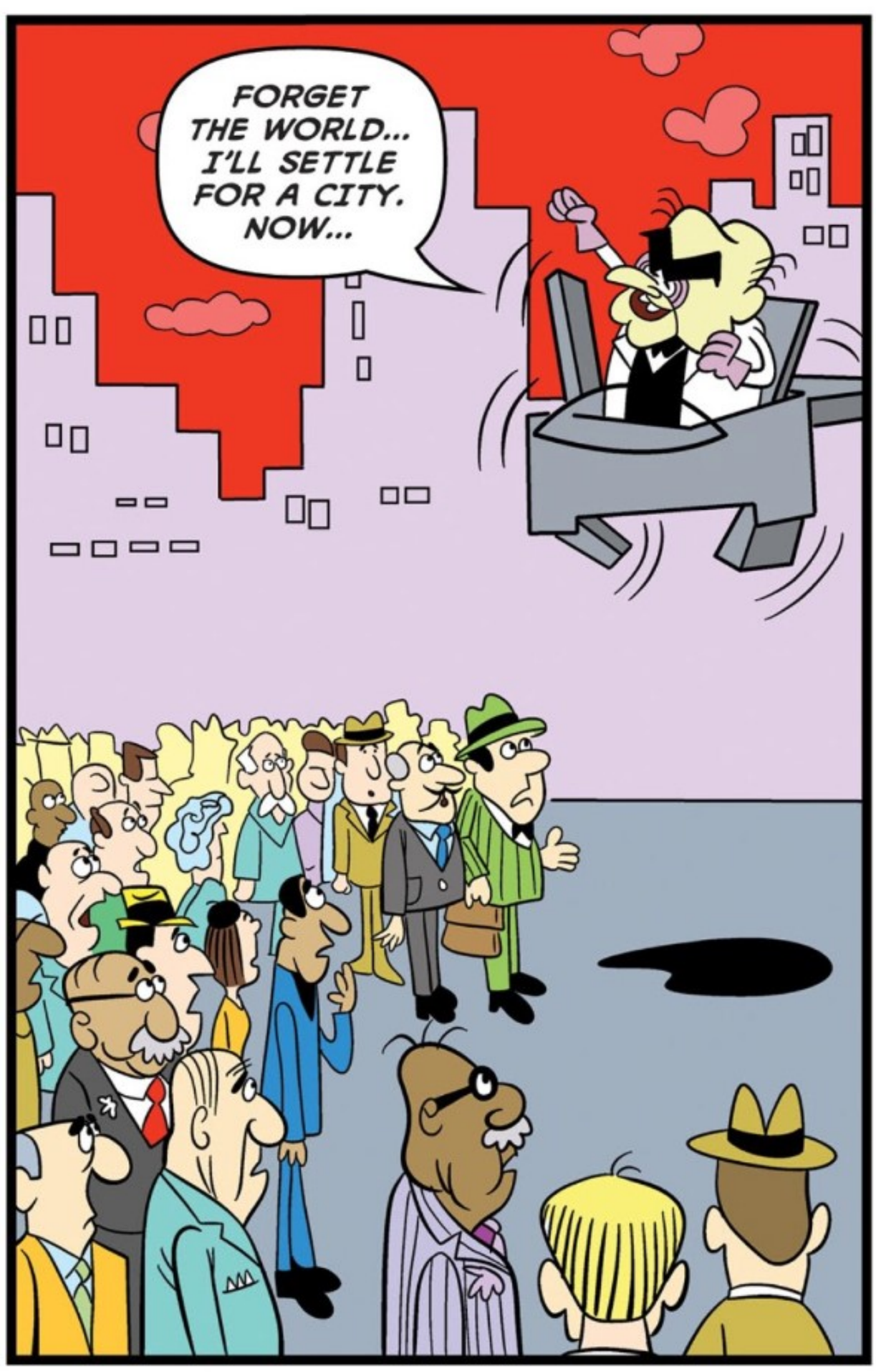


JUMPIN' JEHOSAPHAT...
WHAT IS IT?

WHATEVER HAS HAPPENED, WE ARE ALL STUCK IN HERE. I'LL WARN YOU ONCE: STAY AWAY FROM POLLY, DON'T COME NEAR!
HELLO, MY PEOPLE... TODAY, I HAVE DEFEATED ALL THREATS, BOTH GOOD AND EVIL.

THAT VOICE... A MOST FAMILIAR FOE. OF COURSE IT'S HIM... I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN.

UNDERDOG IS GONE. ALL OF THE VILLAINS YOU FEAR... ARE GONE.
I HAVE CUT US OFF FROM ALL OUTSIDE HELP. NO HEROES ARE COMING TO SAVE YOU. NO EVIL IS COMING TO THREATEN YOU.
EVER SINCE I WAS A BOY, I WANTED TO RULE THE WORLD... TO KNOW ABSOLUTE POWER... BUT NOW, I SEE A BETTER WAY.


FORGET THE WORLD... I'LL SETTLE FOR A CITY. NOW...

SIMON SAYS... BOW!
DON'T MISS "KING SINISTER" PART 2 IN UNDERDOG & PALS #2!

THE WORLD OF COMMANDER MCBRAGG "EASTER ISLAND"

EASTER ISLAND! DID I EVER TELL YOU ABOUT THE TIME I SAVED THE WORLD FROM THOSE MASSIVE WEIRD HEADS?

UM, I BELIEVE I'LL GO GET A ROOT CANAL.

"I WAS IN SEARCH OF THE LAST REMAINING PAIR OF DODO BIRDS, WHICH I WOULD RESCUE, AND SAVE THEIR SPECIES, WHETHER THEY WANTED IT OR NOT.

"I CAME ACROSS SOME TRACKS WHICH MY YEARS OF TRAINING AND KEEN OBSERVATIONAL SKILLS TOLD ME WERE NOT FROM A DODO BIRD.

"I IMMEDIATELY BEGAN AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE FRESHNESS OF THE TRACKS. I SOON DISCOVERED TRACES OF POWDER USED IN TREATING ATHLETE'S FOOT. IT WAS STILL WARM.

THUMP!

"I HEARD A THUNDEROUS NOISE COMING FROM BEHIND ME. THE ENTIRE ISLAND SHOOK. IF I HADN'T SEEN SO MUCH ALREADY IN THE WORLD I WOULDN'T HAVE BELIEVED MY EYES!"

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

"SUDDENLY, I FOUND MYSELF STARING UP AT THE STRANGEST LOOKING GIANTS THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN! THEY WERE HEADING RIGHT FOR ME!

"MY WORD, COMMANDER! WHAT DID YOU DO?"

"I PERFORMED AN AMAZING FRONT FLIP OUT OF THE GIANT PRINT, STUCK THE LANDING, AND RECEIVED PERFECT MARKS FROM SOME OF THE LOCALS.

10

10

"USING MY OLYMPIC SPEED, I RACED AHEAD TO GIVE MYSELF TIME TO THINK. I DO SOME OF MY BEST THINKING WHEN I'M ZOOMING ALONG AT UPWARDS OF THIRTY MILES AN HOUR.

"BUT THEIR MASSIVE STRIDES WERE TOO GREAT FOR EVEN MY UNBELIEVABLE SPEED. THEY OVERTOOK ME, AND AN EPIC BRAWL ENSUED. I FOUGHT BRAVELY, AND TOUGHLY, AND MANLY. AND DID I MENTION BRAVELY?

"I KNEW EVEN I COULDN'T KEEP UP THAT PACE FOR LONG AND CALLED ONE OF MY TWO ALLOTTED TIME-OUTS DURING THE FIGHT. I SOON FOUND OUT THE GIANTS' PLANS WERE FOR WORLD DOMINATION. I HAD NO TIME TO WASTE!"

OUR PLANS ARE FOR WORLD DOMINATION. THERE, I SAID IT.

"USING THE SPOON ON MY TRUSTY SWISS ARMY KNIFE, I BEGAN DIGGING DOZENS OF MASSIVE HOLES, WHILE I DISTRACTED THE GIANTS WITH ONE OF MY TONY AWARD-WINNING PUPPET PLAYS.

"HAVING GAINED THEIR TRUST WITH MY PUPPETRY, I CONVINCED THEM THAT WORLD DOMINATION REQUIRES SUPERB HYGIENE, AND TOLD THEM I WOULD PERSONALLY CLEAN THEIR EARS, GIVING THEM BETTER ODDS AT ACHIEVING THEIR GOAL.

"I FASHIONED A CRUDE PHONE SYSTEM WITH CANS OF SURVIVAL BEANIE WEENIES FROM MY BACKPACK AND THE SHOELACES FROM ONE OF THE GIANT'S SNEAKERS. I LAUNCHED IT AS HARD AS I COULD IN THE DIRECTION OF MY OLD FRIEND MEDUSA, WHO OWED ME A FAVOR FOR ONCE UNTANGLING HER SNAKES.

"I APPRISED HER OF THE SITUATION AND REMINDED HER OF THE FAVOR SHE OWED ME. HER ENTHUSIASM TO HELP ME WAS UNBRIDLED.

YEAH, WHATEVER.

"AND SO, USING HER ABILITY TO TURN MEN INTO STONE WITH JUST A GLANCE, MEDUSA'S POWER TRANSFORMED THEM INTO THE ROCKY MONOLITHS THAT TOURISTS LOOK UPON TODAY. AND THUS, I SAVED THE WORLD."

YOU'RE HEAD AND SHOULDERS ABOVE THE REST.

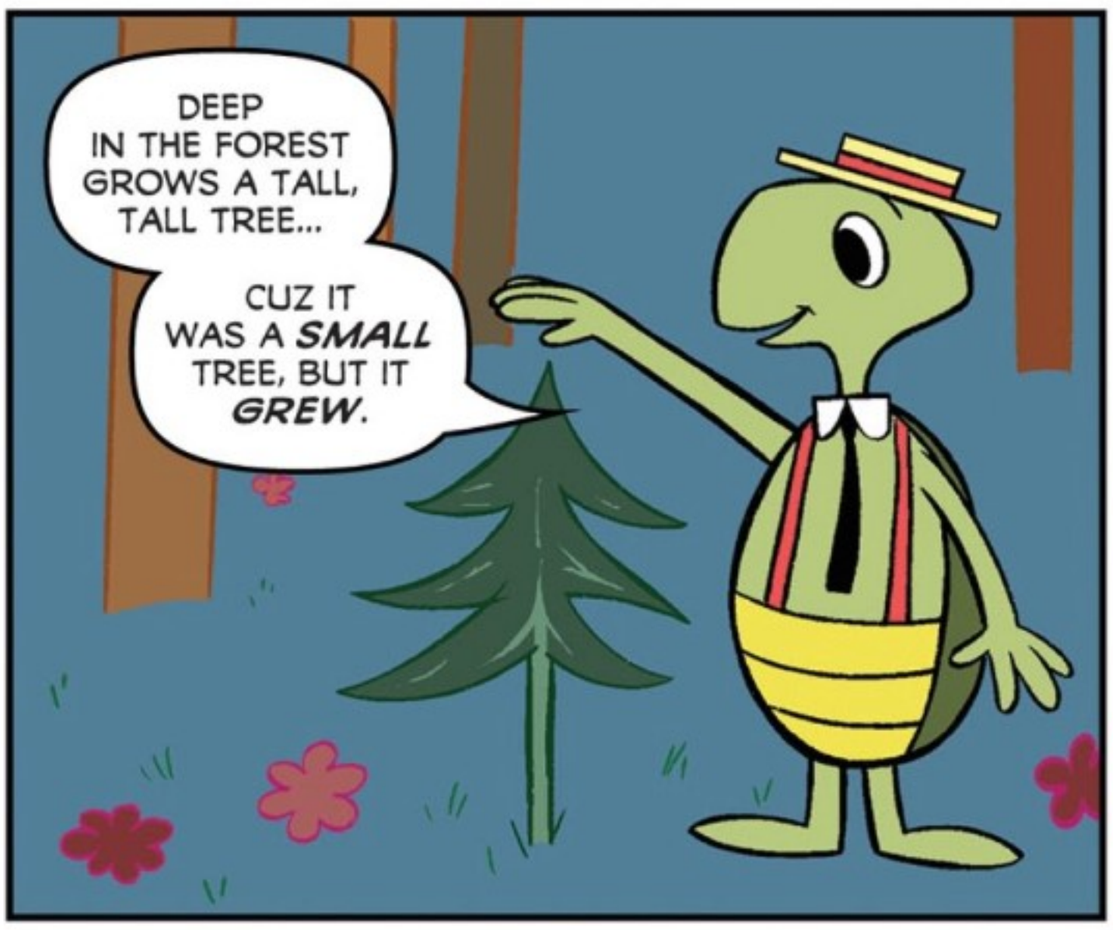
HRRMMPH, INDEED.

THE END

TooTeR TuRTle

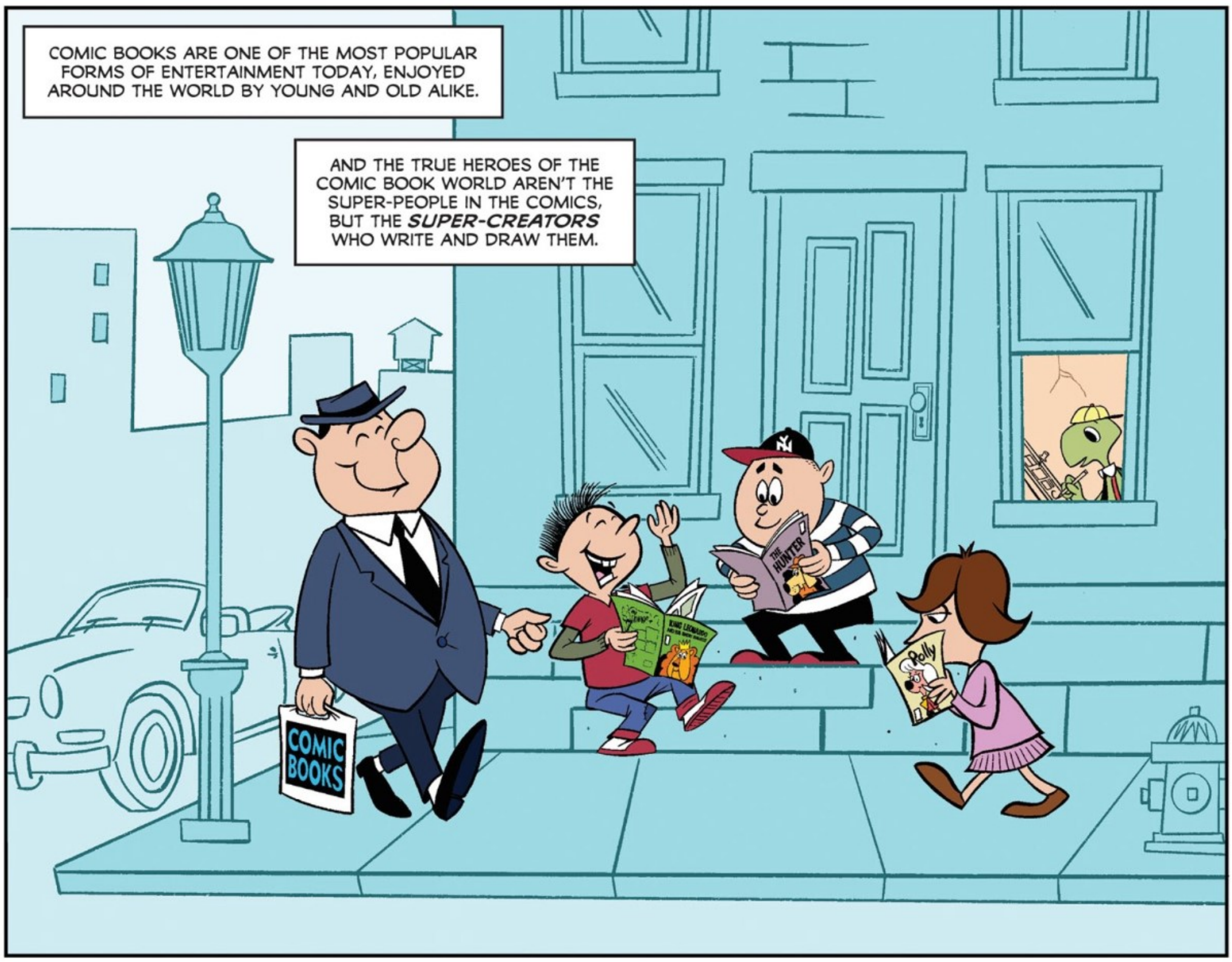
COMIC CREATOR

(BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD)



IT SOUNDS LIKE FUN, BUT THERE'S PROBABLY MORE TO IT THAN YOU THINK.
BUT THAT HASN'T STOPPED YOU BEFORE, SO HERE GOES...

JUST BE CAREFUL, MY BOY!


COMIC BOOKS ARE ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR FORMS OF ENTERTAINMENT TODAY, ENJOYED AROUND THE WORLD BY YOUNG AND OLD ALIKE.
AND THE TRUE HEROES OF THE COMIC BOOK WORLD AREN'T THE SUPER-PEOPLE IN THE COMICS, BUT THE *SUPER-CREATORS* WHO WRITE AND DRAW THEM.
COMIC BOOKS
THE HUNTER
Polly

THE LIFE OF THE COMIC BOOK CREATOR IS NOT ONE OF EXTRAVAGANT RICHES. IT'S HARD WORK, AND SOMETIMES IT TAKES THE CREATOR MANY YEARS TO GET A JOB.
I SURE AM HUNGRY AFTER ALL THAT DRAWING.
HM. LOOKS LIKE I'LL HAVE TO IMPROVISE A SNACK.
ORANGES

GUESS IT'S A *JAM SANDWICH* AGAIN...
TAKE TWO PIECES OF BREAD AND *JAM* THEM *TOGETHER!*

COMIC BOOK CREATORS PUT IN LONG HOURS AS THEY WORK ON THEIR PORTFOLIOS. THE PORTFOLIO IS A COLLECTION OF THEIR BEST WORK, WHICH THEY WILL SHOW TO A PUBLISHER IN THE HOPE OF GETTING HIRED.

ZZZZ... SNORT!

LOOKS LIKE I DOZED OFF AGAIN...

SHUCKS.

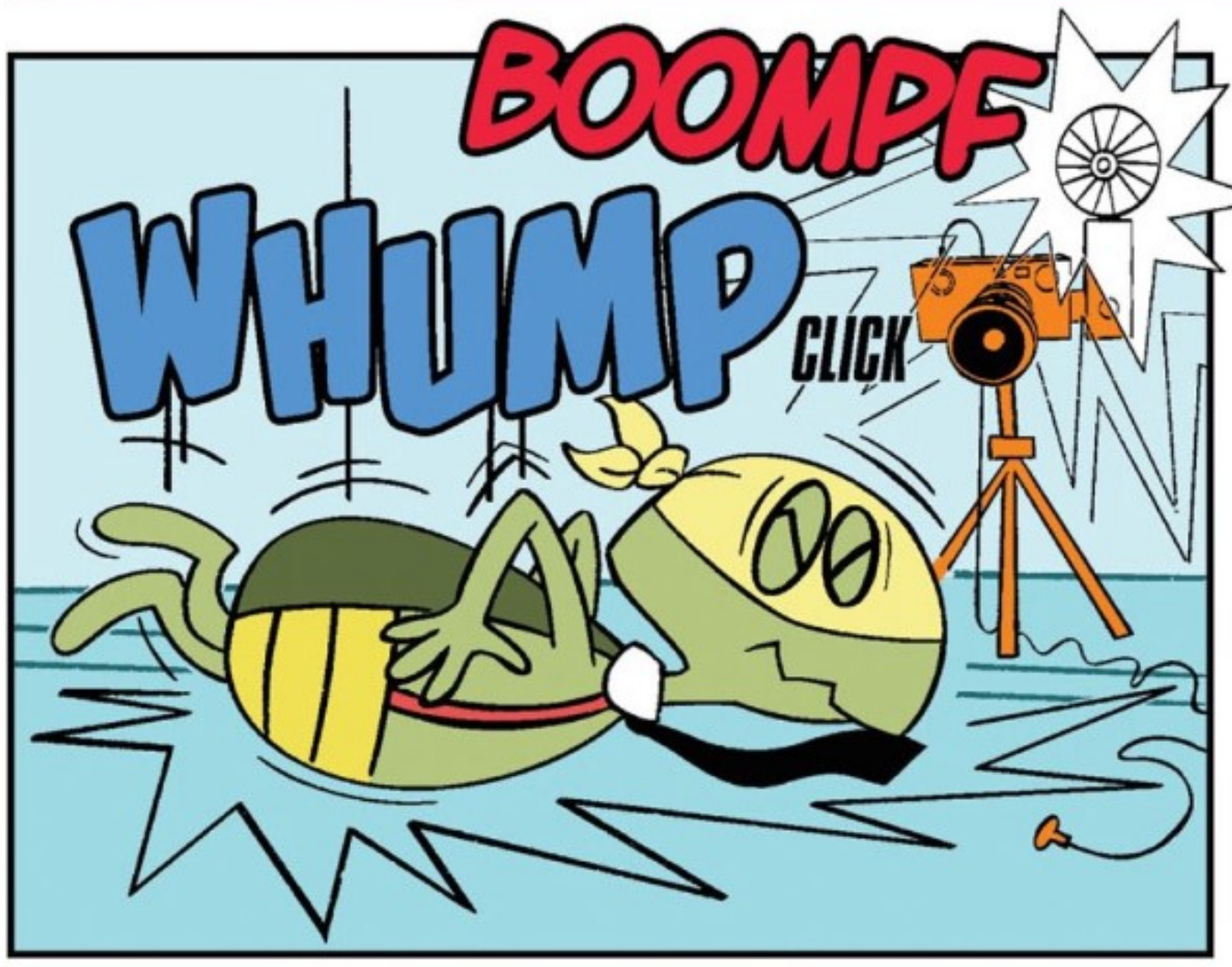
TOO BAD THERE AREN'T ANY COMICS ABOUT *ABSTRACT* ART.

THE COMIC BOOK ARTIST STRIVES TO CAPTURE THE MOST REALISTIC POSES AS POSSIBLE FOR THEIR CHARACTERS, SOMETIMES TAKING PHOTOS OF THEMSELVES IN ACTION TO USE AS REFERENCE FOR THEIR DRAWINGS.

THE MORE REALISTIC THE DRAWINGS, THE MORE THE READER WILL BE ABLE TO RELATE TO THE STORY.

I'LL JUST JUMP OFF THIS HERE TRUCK...

AN' MY TRUSTY REMOTE-CONTROLLED CAMERA WILL CAPTURE THE PERFECT FLYING POSE!



COMIC BOOK ART IS CONSIDERED BY SOME TO BE JUST AS LEGITIMATE AS FINE ART. SOMETIMES, THE STRUGGLING COMICS CREATOR WILL SEEK COMRADERY WITH OTHER ARTISTS. THIS IS CALLED "NETWORKING."

COMIC BOOKS?

THAT'S NOT *REAL* ART! BUZZ OFF!

FINE ARTS SOCIETY

IT SOMETIMES TAKES YEARS FOR THE COMIC BOOK CREATOR TO BECOME GOOD ENOUGH TO GET A JOB WITH A BIG COMICS PUBLISHER. BUT PATIENCE AND HARD WORK CAN EVENTUALLY PAY OFF.

OBOY, THIS COULD BE MY BIG BREAK!

RING! RING!

IS THIS TOOTER TURTLE?

IT SURE IS! IS THIS BIG COMICS INC.?

YEAH. LISTEN, TOOTER, YER ART STINKS. GO GET A DAY JOB.

OH, PLEASE, CAN'T YA JUST GIVE ME ***ONE CHANCE*** TO PROVE MYSELF?

NO WAY, YAH BUM.

GOSH, I'D EVEN WORK FOR ***FREE***!

IN THAT CASE, YER ***HIRED***, KID!

OH, BOY!

WE'RE PUTTING YOU ON THE SKUNK-MAN COMIC.

SKUNK-MAN IS MY FAVORITEST HERO OF ALL TIME!

THAT'S WHAT THEY ALL SAY. NOW GET TO WORK!

WHEN A CREATOR WORKS FOR A BIG COMICS COMPANY, THEY REPORT DIRECTLY TO THE EDITOR, WHO OVERSEES THE PROJECT AND DETERMINES WHAT STORIES ARE TOLD.

IT TOOK ME A MONTH, BUT I FINISHED THE SCRIPT FOR THE FIRST ISSUE OF SKUNK-MAN, SIR!

GREAT, KID. BUT WE'VE MADE A LITTLE CHANGE...

WE NEED TO MAKE ROOM FOR MORE ADS IN THE BOOK, SO SHORTEN YOUR STORY TO FIVE PAGES.

ER... UH, SURE, BOSS.

I GUESS I'LL JUST TAKE OUT A COUPLE MILLION WORDS OR SO.

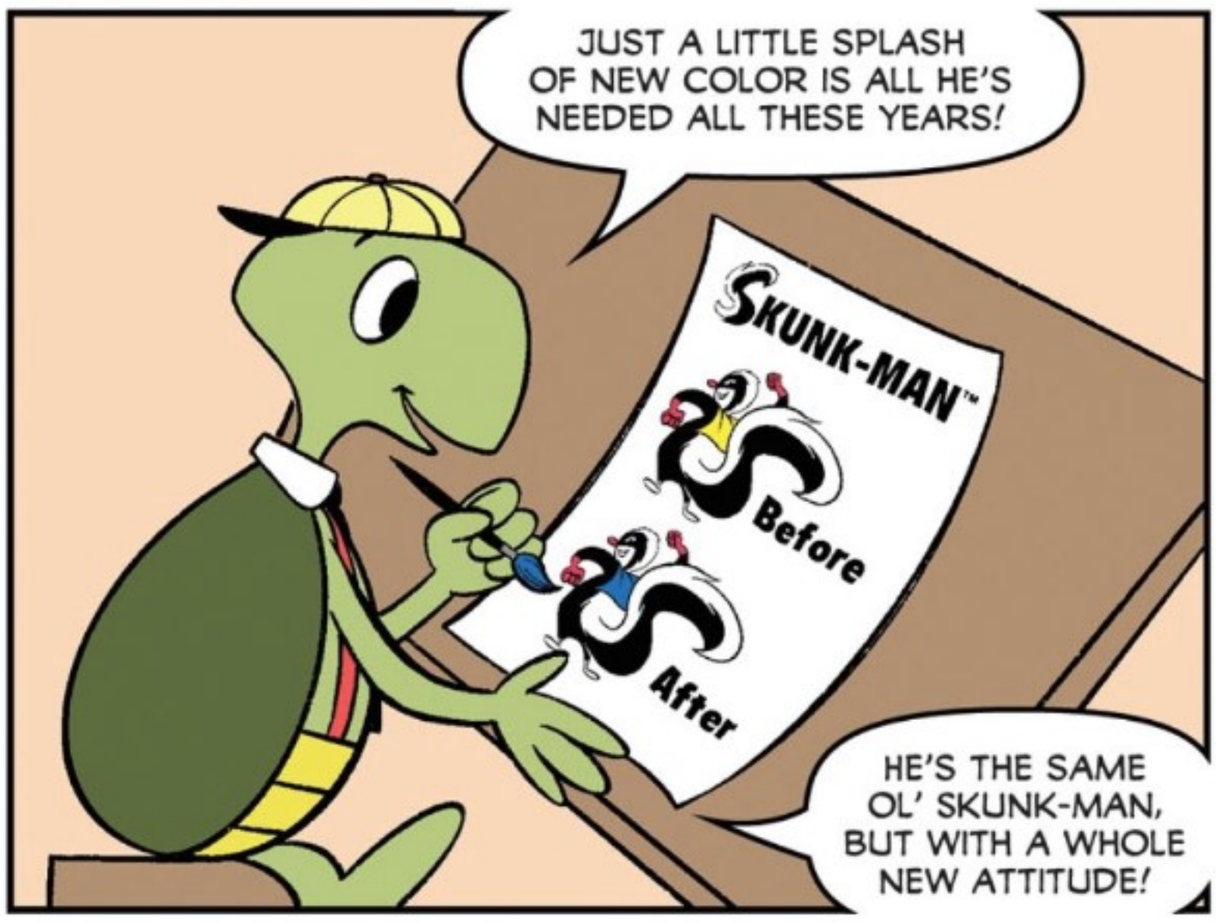
WORKING ON A WORLD-RENOWNED COMIC BOOK IS A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. THE CREATOR MUST ALWAYS BE THINKING OF NEW WAYS TO KEEP THE CHARACTER EXCITING FOR FANS.

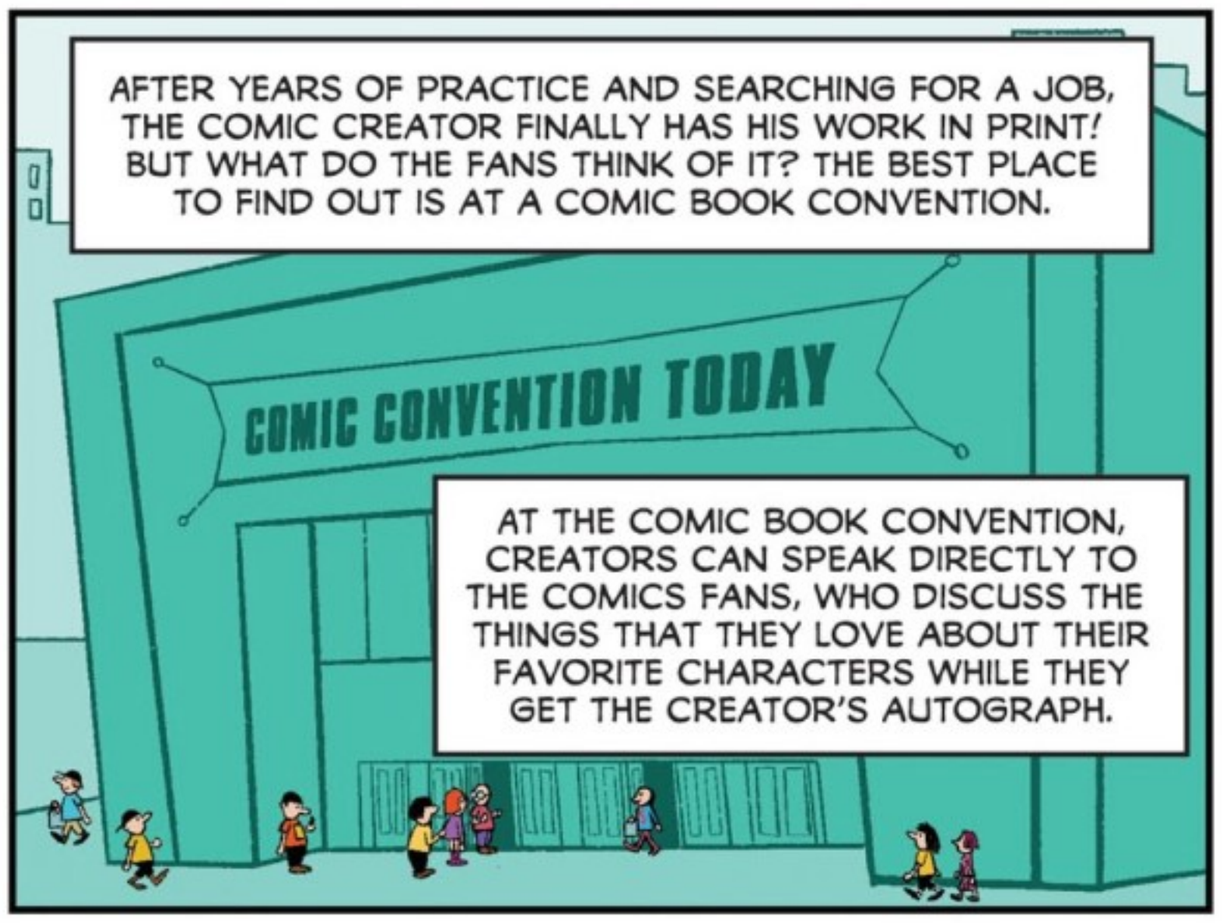
GEE... MY EDITOR SAYS THE FANS ARE COMPLAINING THAT SKUNK-MAN HAS BECOME BORING.

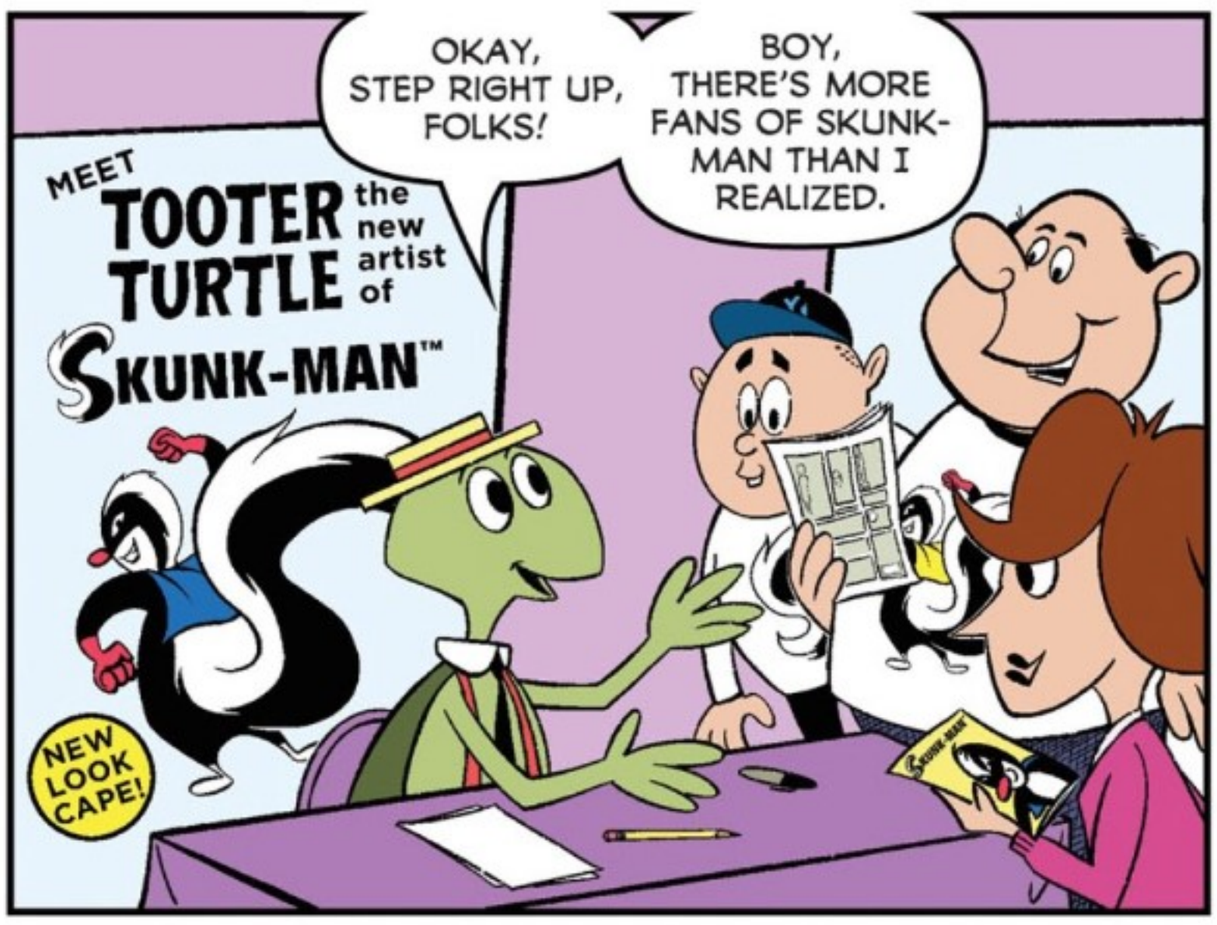
WHAT CAN I DO TO MAKE HIM EXCITING?

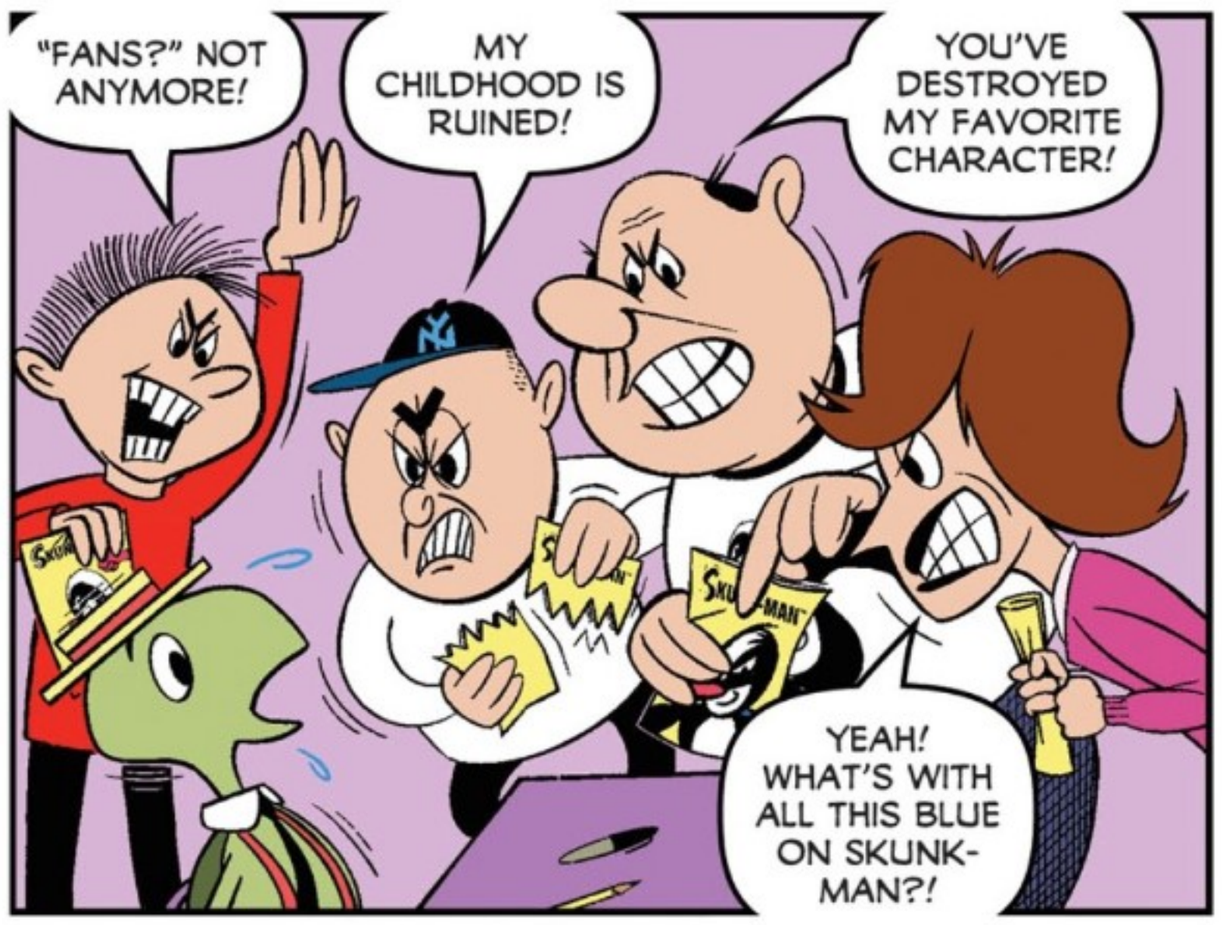
I'D BETTER PAY MORE ATTENTION TO THE REAL WORLD OR I'LL END UP BLACK AND BLUE...

BLACK AND ***BLUE***?! THAT'S ***IT***!


JUST A LITTLE SPLASH OF NEW COLOR IS ALL HE'S NEEDED ALL THESE YEARS!
SKUNK-MAN™
Before
After
HE'S THE SAME OL' SKUNK-MAN, BUT WITH A WHOLE NEW ATTITUDE!


AFTER YEARS OF PRACTICE AND SEARCHING FOR A JOB, THE COMIC CREATOR FINALLY HAS HIS WORK IN PRINT! BUT WHAT DO THE FANS THINK OF IT? THE BEST PLACE TO FIND OUT IS AT A COMIC BOOK CONVENTION.
COMIC CONVENTION TODAY
AT THE COMIC BOOK CONVENTION, CREATORS CAN SPEAK DIRECTLY TO THE COMICS FANS, WHO DISCUSS THE THINGS THAT THEY LOVE ABOUT THEIR FAVORITE CHARACTERS WHILE THEY GET THE CREATOR'S AUTOGRAPH.


MEET TOOTER TURTLE the new artist of SKUNK-MAN™
NEW LOOK CAPE!
OKAY, STEP RIGHT UP, FOLKS!
BOY, THERE'S MORE FANS OF SKUNK-MAN THAN I REALIZED.


"FANS?" NOT ANYMORE!
MY CHILDHOOD IS RUINED!
YOU'VE DESTROYED MY FAVORITE CHARACTER!
YEAH! WHAT'S WITH ALL THIS BLUE ON SKUNK-MAN?!

BUT YOU SAID SKUNK-MAN WAS BORING!
YEAH, BUT WE DIDN'T GIVE YOU PERMISSION TO CHANGE HIM!
HELP ME, MR. WIZARD!

HERE I GO AGAIN!
DRIZZLE, DRAZZLE, DRUZZLE, DROME...
TIME FOR THIS ONE TO COME HOME!

UH, GEE, MR. WIZARD, LOOKS LIKE I MADE A MESS OUT OF THINGS AGAIN.
HM! HM! ALWAYS, ALWAYS I TELL YOU, TOOTER...

BE JUST WHAT YOU IS, NOT WHAT YOU IS NOT...
FOLKS WHAT DO THIS HAS THE HAPPIEST LOT!
THE END